

# BUDGET W

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/olume 3, Number 23

Summarizing budgetary issues in legislation scheduled for the House floor

15 September 2003

Week	of 15	Septem	ıber	2003
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#### SUSPENSION CALENDAR

1) Fremont-Madison Conveyance Act (S. 520).



S. 520 directs the Secretary of the Interior to

convey certain components of a water distribution and drainage system to the Fremont-Madison Irrigation District in Idaho by September 2004. The bill would slightly increase "offsetting receipts" – receipts that are counted as offsets to spending – and hence it will be recorded as producing a slight reduction in spending.

2) To Amend the Irrigation Project Contract Extension Act of 1998 to Extend Certain Contracts Between the Bureau of Reclamation and Certain Irrigation Water Contractors in the States of Wyoming and Nebraska (H.R. 2040).



This bill extends – for up to 2 years – contracts between the Bureau of Reclamation and purchasers of irrigation water in Wyoming and Nebraska that receive water from the Glendo Reservoir. The existing contracts will expire on 31 December 2003. The bill would have an insignificant effect on direct spending – spending that is not subject to appropriations.

3) To Amend the Reclamation Projects Authorization and Adjustment Act of 1992 to Increase the Federal Share of the Costs of the San Gabriel Basin Demonstration Project (H.R. 1284).



This bill increases, by \$12.5 million, the amounts authorized to be appropriated for the San Gabriel Basin demonstration project in California. Under current law, \$38 million has been authorized to be appropriated for this project, and about \$29 million has been appropriated to date. The bill would neither increase direct spending nor reduce revenue.

4) **Celebrating the Life and Achievements of Lawrence Eugene "Larry" Doby** (H.Con.Res. 235). This resolution has no budget implications.



5) **Postmaster Equity Act of 2003** (S. 678). This bill gives postmasters of the United



States Postal Service the same rights as postal supervisors regarding the negotiation of pay and benefits. The bill may have insignificant effects on the costs of the operation of the Post Office, which is considered

"off budget" (meaning it is excluded from the budget totals by law).

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PLEASE NOTE: This document addresses budgetary issues only. It should not be taken to address support or opposition on any other grounds. A green flag indicates no serious budgetary or budget compliance concerns. A yellow flag indicates moderate or potential problems. A red flag indicates serious problems. Also note: Floor schedules and legislative details are subject to change after publication.

This document was prepared by the majority staff of the Committee on the Budget, U.S. House of Representatives. It has not been approved by the full committee and therefore may not reflect the views of all the committee's members.

### 6) Museum and Library Services Act of 2003 (H.R. 13).



The bill reauthorizes the Museum and Library Services

Act, which provides funding for the activities of museums and libraries in the United States. The bill neither increases direct spending nor reduces revenue.

## 7) Hospital Mortgage Insurance Act of 2003 (H.R. 659).



The bill modifies the program at the Department of Housing and Urban Development that provides mortgage insurance to hospitals. The various reforms would increase the demand for the insurance, on which the Federal Government makes a profit – as much as \$4 million per year in increased offsetting collections from insurance premiums, credited against discretionary spending. The bill neither increases direct spending nor reduces revenue.

8) Korean War Veterans Recognition Act of 2003 (H.R. 292).



This measure adds National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day to the list of days on which the flag should especially be displayed. The bill neither increases direct spending nor reduces revenue.

#### 9) To Amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to Extend for an Additional 5 Years the Special Immigrant Religious Worker Program (H.R. 2152).



This bill extends for an additional 5 years the special immigrant religious worker program, which would allow as many as 5,000 workers for religious organizations to enter the United States annually. The bill neither increases direct spending nor reduces revenue.

## 10) Internet Tax and Nondiscrimination Act (H.R. 49).



This bill makes permanent the moratorium on State and local taxation of online services and electronic commerce. Under current law, the moratorium is set to expire on 1 November 2003. The bill neither increases direct spending nor reduces revenue.

#### LEGISLATION CONSIDERED UNDER A RULE

Bill: Charitable Giving Act of 2003 (H.R. 7).

Committee: Ways and Means

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Summary: This bill makes changes in the tax code to encourage the practice of contributing to

charitable organizations. It allows a charitable deduction up to certain limits for persons who do not itemize their deductions but make cash charitable contributions. It also allows tax-free distributions from Individual Retirement Accounts for charitable purposes to individuals age 70½ and older. H.R. 7 also raises the cap on corporate charitable contributions and reduces the excise tax on net investment income of private foundations. Another provision allows States to use 10 percent of their grants under the Temporary

Assistance to Needy Families for the Social Service Block Grant program.

Cost: No final estimate by CBO or the Joint Committee on Taxation was available at the time of

publication of this Budget Week. It is not expected, though, that the bill will increase direct

spending. It will likely cause revenue to be reduced by \$12.7 billion over 10 years.

Though the CBO estimate was not finalized, the bill is not expected to violate the **Budget Act:** 

> Congressional Budget Act. It is not expected to increase direct spending. The revenue loss caused by the bill is not expected to reduce revenue below the level called for in the

budget resolution (H. Con. Res. 95) in either fiscal year 2004 or through 2006.

Prepared by	 	 	 	 	 	 The Com	mittee on the	e Budget
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